

Chinese

RULES OF APPLICATION

Romanization

1. ALA-LC romanization of ideographic characters used for the Chinese language follows the principles of the Pinyin ("*spell sound*") system. The Pinyin system was developed in the mid 20th century for creating Latin script readings for Chinese script ideographic characters. It replaces the Wade-Giles system of romanization specified in earlier editions of the *ALA-LC Romanization Tables*. The Pinyin system as outlined in *Han yu pin yin fang an* 汉语拼音方案 (1962) is followed closely for creating romanizations except that the ALA-LC guidelines do not include the indication of tone marks.
2. Standard Chinese national (PRC) pronunciation is used as the basis for creating the Latin script reading of a character. When it is necessary to make semantic distinctions between multiple readings of a single character, rely upon the usage of the most recent comprehensive edition of *Ci hai* 辞海 (published in China by Shanghai ci shu chu ban she). To determine contemporary pronunciation, or when there is a conflict in pronunciation between different sources, it is appropriate to follow the guidance of a more recent dictionary (such as *Xian dai Han yu ci dian* 现代汉语词典, *Zhonghua da zi dian* 中华大字典, *Han yu da ci dian* 汉语大词典, and/or *Xin Hua zi dian* 新华字典). More specialized dictionaries (such as *Zhongguo li dai yi jia zhuan lu* 中国历代医家传录, pub. 1991) may be consulted if necessary. Judgment should be used in choosing between modern authoritative dictionaries and older standard dictionaries.
3. Romanize words of non-Chinese origin systematically in all cases, even though normalized non-systematic romanizations are known or the word comes from a Latin script language.

乌鲁木齐
哈尔滨市
芝加哥
東京

Wulumuqi *not* Urumchi
Ha'erbin Shi *not* Harbin
Zhijiage *not* Chicago
Dongjing *not* Tokyo

Separation of Syllables

Separate the romanization of each Chinese character with a space. This includes corporate names, terms of address and titles of royalty. Do not join syllables of general, non-specific geographic terms.

明清小说比较研究	Ming Qing xiao shuo bi jiao yan jiu
李白和他的诗歌	Li Bai he ta de shi ge
地震文化与社会发展	Di zhen wen hua yu she hui fa zhan
商務印書館	Shang wu yin shu guan
李登輝先生言論集	Li Denghui xian sheng yan lun ji
塔尔寺修缮工程报告	Ta er si xiu shan gong cheng bao gao
中国老年文物研究学会	Zhongguo lao nian wen wu yan jiu xue hui
西北国棉四厂	Xi bei guo mian 4 chang

1. Terms of address. A term of address may follow a surname, a courtesy name, or another appellation. Separate syllables in the term of address; capitalize only the first letter. If a term appearing as an integral part of a name is not a title or term of address, romanize the name in running form, as a forename (see below).

林老师	Lin lao shi
韋大夫	Wei dai fu
白沙先生	Baisha xian sheng
晦菴先生	Hui'an xian sheng
蔣經國先生	Jiang Jingguo xian sheng

2. Titles, and titles of royalty. Syllables in a title should be separated and written in lower-case. If a term appearing as an integral part of a name is not a title or term of address, romanize the name in running form, as a forename. An epithet is separated from the name of a person, using lower case letters and separated syllables.

董鄂妃	Dong'e fei
慈禧皇后	Cixi huang hou
秦始皇帝	Qin shi huang di
楊太后	Yang tai hou
But:	
唐太宗	Tang Taizong

3. General, non-specific geographic terms. Some terms have both general and specific usage, depending upon context. For example, when the term 东北 refers to the direction northeast, or, in a general way, to the Northeast, separate syllables; when it is used to refer specifically to Manchuria, capitalize and join syllables.

华东	Hua dong
西北	xi bei
东北	dong bei
陕北	Shan bei

But:

东北林学院

Dongbei lin xue yuan

Connection of syllables.

1. Join together (without spaces or hyphens) the syllables associated with multi-character surnames and given names. Also join together given names, Buddhist names, courtesy names, etc., in more than one syllable. For example:

孫中山	Sun Zhongshan
歐陽修	Ouyang Xiu
司馬相如	Sima Xiangru
尼克森	Nikesen
康有為	Kang Youwei

1A. Forenames, given names, courtesy names. A forename does not include a person's surname. Only capitalize the first letter of a forename. If a term appearing as an integral part of a name is not a title or term of address, romanize the name in running form.

無名氏	Wumingshi
梧崗主人	Wugangzhuren
雲谷老人	Yun'gulaoren
孔子	Kongzi
老子	Laozi
浩然	Haoran

1B. Married women. Separate and capitalize family names.

蔣宋美齡	Jiang Song Meiling
陳趙月英	Chen Zhao Yueying

1C. Fictional characters. The names of fictional characters are romanized in the same manner as those of real people.

駱駝祥子	Luo tuo Xiangzi
秦可卿	Qin Keqing

1D. Names of persons of religious vocation. Separate a term of address from a family name or forename.

惠能	Huineng
吉藏釋	Jizang shi

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智顗大師	Zhiyi da shi
元賢沙門	Yuanxian sha men

1E. Personal names appearing as part of the names of corporate bodies and meetings are romanized in the same manner as all other personal names.

中山大學	Zhongshan da xue
《刘少奇研究论文集》编辑组	“Liu Shaoqi yan jiu lun wen ji” bian ji zu
周恩来研究学术讨论会	Zhou Enlai yan jiu xue shu tao lun hui

2. Join together (without spaces or hyphens) the syllables associated with multi-character geographic names. Do not join the names of jurisdictions and topographical features to geographic names, but separate them from the proper name by a space.

中华人民共和国史稿	Zhonghua Renmin Gongheguo shi gao
臺灣省立博物館	Taiwan sheng li bo wu guan
西藏自治区文物管理委员会	Xizang Zizhiqu wen wu guan li wei yuan hui
东北林学院	Dongbei lin xue yuan
楊子江	Yangzi Jiang
广州市	Guangzhou Shi
安徽省	Anhui Sheng
商丘地区	Shangqiu Diqu
鹿港镇	Lugang Zhen
纽约市	Niuyue Shi
甘南藏族自治州	Gannan Zangzu Zizhizhou
翠亨村	Cuiheng Cun
浦棠乡	Putang Xiang
海南岛	Hainan Dao

2A. Names of countries. Connect syllables according to the practice followed by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

中华人民共和国	Zhonghua Renmin Gongheguo
朝鲜民主主义人民共和国	Chaoxian Minzhu Zhuyi Renmin Gongheguo
中華民國	Zhonghua Min'guo

2B. Generic terms for geographical features are capitalized and separated from the names of the features.

海南岛	Hainan Dao
太平洋	Taiping Yang

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长江	Chang Jiang
长江口	Changjiang Kou
长江大饭店	Changjiang da fan dian
汾河	Fen He
汾河水库	Fenhe Shuiku
梵净山	Fanjing Shan
梵净山自然保护区	Fanjingshan Ziran Baohuqu
黄土高原	Huangtu Gaoyuan
印度半島	Yindu Bandao

2C. Two-syllable place names, in which the second syllable is a generic term. Separate and capitalize a generic term for the jurisdiction.

吳縣	Wu Xian
祁縣	Qi Xian

2D. Place names consisting of more than two syllables. Separate and capitalize a generic term for the jurisdiction.

安徽省	Anhui Sheng
广州市	Guangzhou Shi
高雄市	Gaoxiong Shi
宝山区	Baoshan Qu
鹿港镇	Lugang Zhen
翠亨村	Cuiheng Cun
尚丘地区	Shangqiu Diqu
干南藏族自治州	Gannan Zangzu Zizhizhou

2E. Obsolete terms for administrative units are romanized in the same manner as the names of contemporary places.

福寧州	Funing Zhou
昌平州	Changping Zhou
錦州府	Jinzhou Fu
安順府	Anshun Fu

2F. Names of non-Chinese jurisdictions are romanized in the same manner as the names of Chinese jurisdictions.

加州	Jia Zhou
紐約市	Niuyue Shi
亞洲	Ya Zhou

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東南亞

Dong nan Ya

2G. Terms for archaeological sites, bridges, and other constructions of geographic extent are capitalized and separated from the names themselves. Individual syllables of multi-syllable generic terms are connected together.

泸州长江大桥

Luzhou Changjiang Daqiao

黄壁庄水库

Huangbizhuang Shuiku

京杭运河

Jing Hang Yunhe

2H. Names of buildings and other constructions of less than geographic extent. Syllables are separated and not capitalized, except for proper nouns.

黄鹤楼

Huang he lou

聖果寺

Sheng guo si

蓬萊閣

Penglai ge

2I. Names of continents and regions. Generic terms are separated and capitalized in the names of continents and regions. Distinguish when a term refers to a region, and when it refers to direction or position.

亞洲

Ya Zhou

東南亞

Dong nan Ya

北美洲

Bei Mei Zhou

東北

dong bei (when referring to direction or position)

but:

東北

Dongbei (when referring to the particular area
formerly known as Manchuria)

2J. Personal names appearing as part of geographic names are romanized in the same manner as all other personal names.

张自忠路

Zhang Zizhong Lu

3. Join together transliterations of two or more characters comprising the names of racial, linguistic, or tribal groupings of mankind. Join the term zu (for tribe or people) to a name only in proper names of places.

基督徒

Jidu tu

桐城派

Tongcheng pai

毛南族

Maonan zu

美国人

Meiguo ren

Chinese

客家话
苗族风情录

Kejia hua
Miao zu feng qing lu

But:

德宏傣族景颇族自治州

Dehong Daizu Jingpozu Zizhizhou

4. Precede joined syllables beginning with the letters *a*, *o*, and *e* with an apostrophe. Place an apostrophe between joined syllables when the first ends with the letter *n* and the second begins with the letter *g*. For example:

長安市
延安市
張占鋼

Chang'an Shi *not* Changan Shi
Yan'an Shi *not* Yanan Shi
Zhang Zhan'gang *not* Zhang Zhangang

NOTE: A proposal to conform to the Chinese guidelines, as put forth in *Han yu pin yin fang an*, by 1) only using an apostrophe before joined syllables beginning with a vowel, in cases of ambiguity, and ceasing the practice of writing an apostrophe between the joined letters *n* and *g*; and 2) adding an umlaut to the syllables *lue* and *nue*, has been sent to the ALA Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials for their approval. If the proposal is approved, these romanization guidelines will be changed accordingly.

Capitalization

1. Capitalize the first word of a proper noun.
2. Capitalize the first word of a corporate name. Capitalize the first word of the name of a corporate subdivision appearing in conjunction with the name of the larger body only when the subdivision is used in headings.
3. Capitalize each separately written word of a geographical name. Capitalize the first word of the names of a dynasty.
4. Capitalize the first word of the title of a book, periodical, or series.

Punctuation

1. Transcribe a centered point (•) indicating coordinate words as a comma. Represent a centered point indicating a space by a space.

索尔•呗娄
理查•M•尼克逊

Suo'er Bailou
Licha M Nikexun

Chinese

理想 ● 劳动 ● 幸福

li xiang, lao dong, xing fu

2. Transcribe brackets ([...]) or angle brackets (< ... >) used in the manner of quotation marks (“... ”) as quotation marks.

<淇县志>编纂委员会

“Qi Xian zhi” bian zuan wei yuan hui

Dates

1. Romanize non-numerical dates as separated syllables, except for reign periods that are also the names of emperors. For example:

光緒己丑 [1889]

Guangxu ji chou [1889]

清光緒 15 年 [1889]

Qing Guangxu 15 nian [1889]

嘉靖乙卯 [1555]

Jiajing yi mao [1555]

民國 79 [1990]

Min'guo 79 [1990]

康德 3 [1936]

Kangde 3 [1936]

明治 1 [1868]

Mingzhi 1 [1868]

一九九八年 [1998]

yi jiu jiu ba nian [1998]

一九九零年 [1990]

yi jiu jiu ling nian [1990]

SPECIAL CHARACTERS IN ROMANIZATION

Special Character

Name

USMARC hexadecimal code

'

apostrophe

27

..

umlaut E8